



Arizona Medical Board

9545 East Doubletree Ranch Road • Scottsdale, Arizona 85258

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DRAFT MINUTES FOR SUMMARY ACTION MEETING Held on Thursday, August 9, 2007 9535 E. Doubletree Ranch Road • Scottsdale, Arizona 85258

Board Members

William R. Martin III, M.D., Chair
Douglas D. Lee, M.D., Vice Chair
Dona Pardo, Ph.D., R.N., Secretary
Dan Eckstrom
Robert P. Goldfarb, M.D., F.A.C.S.
Patricia Griffen
Ram R. Krishna, M.D.
Todd A. Lefkowitz, M.D.
Lorraine L. Mackstaller, M.D.
Paul M. Petelin Sr., M.D.
Germaine Proulx
Amy J. Schneider, M.D., F.A.C.O.G.

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 12:02 p.m.

Roll Call

The following Board Members were present: Dr. Goldfarb, Ms. Griffen, Dr. Lee, Dr. Lefkowitz, Dr. Mackstaller, Dr. Martin, Dr. Pardo, Dr. Petelin, and Ms. Proulx. The following Board Members were not present: Mr. Eckstrom, Dr. Krishna, and Dr. Schneider.

Call to Public

There was no one present for Call to Public.

TIME SPECIFIC MATTER					
NO.	CASE NO.	COMPLAINANT v PHYSICIAN		LIC. #	RESOLUTION
1.	MD-07-0693A	AMB	VENU MENON, M.D.	12360	Summary Suspension

Dr. Menon was not present during the consideration of this case. Kathleen Muller, Case Manager, summarized the case for the Board. Staff reviewed an action taken against Dr. Menon by the Nebraska Medical Board and noted numerous records violations and quality of care violations including his admission that he reused syringes on four or five patients. On May 30, 2007, Dr. Menon was issued an Interim Order to undergo a Physician Assessment and Clinical Evaluation (PACE) for general anesthesia competency within 60 days at his expense. Dr. Menon submitted correspondence to Staff on July 28, 2007 requesting an extension to the Board's Order due to financial constraints. Ms. Muller stated she left several messages with Dr. Menon asking him to clarify his correspondence, as it was in his handwriting and difficult for Staff to decipher and to return her call immediately regarding violation of the Order. Dr. Menon has not contacted Staff since his correspondence dated July 28, 2007. The PACE program informed Staff that Dr. Menon submitted his application on August 7, 2007; however, this is only the first step of the process and he is not currently enrolled in the program.

Dr. Martin stated that upon review of the materials, the issue is whether or not Dr. Menon violated statute by not conforming to the Board Order.

MOTION: Dr. Pardo moved to go into executive session.

SECONDED: Dr. Lee

VOTE: 9-yay, 0-nay, 0-abstain, 0-recuse, 3-absent.

MOTION PASSED.

The Board went into Executive Session for legal advice at 12:06 p.m.

The Board returned to Open Session at 12:11 p.m.

No deliberations or discussions were made during Executive Session.

The Board noted that Dr. Menon had an action taken against his license to practice medicine in another state. The Board does not know whether he is competent to practice and Staff has asked him to submit additional information to the Board, but he has not yet done so. By failing to do so, Dr. Menon is in violation of the Board Order and has proven himself unregulatable. The Board concluded that Dr. Menon is an imminent threat to public health and safety.

MOTION: Dr. Lee moved to summarily suspend Dr. Menon's license based on an imminent threat to public health and safety.

SECONDED: Ms. Proulx

Dr. Lee was concerned that the Board was taking its action based on an inability to regulate. Dr. Martin said Dr. Menon has chosen not to abide by the Order and cannot be regulated by the Board. For that reason the Board has no choice, but to summarily suspend his license to protect the public health and safety.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Roll call vote was taken and the following Board Members voted in favor of the motion: Dr. Goldfarb, Ms. Griffen, Dr. Lee, Dr. Lefkowitz, Dr. Mackstaller, Dr. Martin, Dr. Pardo, Dr. Petelin, and Ms. Proulx. The following Board Members were absent: Mr. Eckstrom, Dr. Krishna, and Dr. Schneider.

VOTE: 9-yay, 0-nay, 0-abstain, 0-recuse, 3-absent.

MOTION PASSED.

The meeting adjourned at 12:14 p.m.